

Advanced Placement United States History

, M.A.

2016-2017

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Course Description

AP U.S. History is designed to provide you with the analytic skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with problems, issues, and movements in United States History. The course material is equivalent to that of a college introductory survey course in U.S. History and covers political, diplomatic, economic, social, cultural, and intellectual history of the United States from 1492 to 2008. The objective of this course is successful completion of the Advanced Placement Exam to be taken on **Friday, May 5th**.

Course Requirements

- 1) The course textbook, Give Me Liberty! An American History (Third Edition), will be read critically and thoroughly. Daily study and note taking to aid retention and review is essential.
- 2) In class assignments and homework are designed to help prepare for unit tests and the AP Exam. All student work is expected to be college caliber.
- 3) Essays will be written on assigned topics. Generally, these will be assigned every week during the first semester. Students will also be given timed, in-class essays at least every two weeks. These essays will be on topics drawn from the historical period currently being studied and, ultimately, will be drawn from any period in U.S. History.
- 4) Active participation and regular daily attendance are vital parts of the course.
- 5) **All students enrolled in this class are expected to take the AP U.S. History Exam.**

Materials

You should have the following materials with you every day in class:

- 1) Notebook (8.5 x 11), 3-5 subject, College Ruled, Three hole punched
- 2) Blue, Black, and Red pens
- 3) Colored Pencils
- 4) Highlighters
- 5) Three Ring Binder

**** All students are asked to bring ONE box of tissues by Friday, August 26th ****

Homework

Students can expect to read/study two to three chapters every two weeks. Additionally, students will be given supplementary readings/assignments to assist in understanding specific aspects of various topics addressed in this course.

All homework is due on the assigned due date. **NO LATE WORK WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

In emergency situations, a student may email Mrs. Honey his/her homework. She must receive it **BEFORE** the class period, and students have TWO “email passes” a semester.

Tests

Timed multiple choice tests on the reading and class discussion will be given frequently. Students will also take essay exams in the Short Answer, Long Essay, and Document Based AP exam forms. Additionally, students will take a semester exam that will contain both multiple choice and essay questions. All assessments are preparatory exercises for the culminating AP Exam.

Grading Policy

Semester grades will be based on the following: Tests-40%, Assignments-40%, Participation-20%. Students will complete several historical skills and reflection projects after the AP exam.

Absences

Consistent attendance is **critical** in an AP class. Much of the discussion and/or context of a lecture or class seminar are difficult to recapture in another student’s notes. However, if you are absent, it is your responsibility to secure discussion/lecture notes from a classmate and to meet with Mrs. Honey to receive any handouts missed. Students who miss an assessment will have to make special arrangements with Mrs. Honey to make up the exam.

Cell Phone/Device Policy

Cell phones and devices will be utilized in this class. Specific directives will be given regarding how and when cell phones and devices will be integrated into lessons. If a student uses his/her cell phone at an inappropriate time, there will be consequences as articulated by Mrs. Honey.

Food/Drink

Food and gum are not permitted in the classroom. Water is allowed.

Behavior

I have one rule in my class: **USE GOOD JUDGMENT.** This simple rule should govern all decisions you make about your academic work and personal conduct in my class. I expect and trust each of my students to follow his/her conscience to become a caring and respectful person, an enthusiastic participant, an effective communicator, and an aspiring leader. Inappropriate behavior exhibited in class will result in a private conference with me after school. If the behavior is not corrected, you will meet with the administration.

